

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Original) A method of diagnosing an impaired glucose tolerance condition, obesity, or a propensity thereto in a patient, said method comprising analyzing the level of PTEN expression or activity in a sample isolated from said patient, whereby an increase in said level of PTEN expression or activity relative to a control sample is an indication of an impaired glucose tolerance condition, obesity, or a propensity thereto.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said level of PTEN expression or activity is analyzed by measuring PTEN lipid phosphatase activity.

4-6. (Canceled).